

**6301 - Wilderness Characteristics Inventory****Summary of Findings and Conclusion****Unit Name and Number: CA-080-228 Northeast Baker****Summary:**

21,736 acres of public land were inventoried within CA-080-228; of which, 10,028 acre were found to possess Wilderness Characteristic. Roads and other forms of human activity with this unit caused its division into 10 subsections cataloged as 228-1 through 228-10. Seven of these units, 228-4 through 228-10, did not possess Wilderness characteristics due to their small size. However, 228-1 through 228-3 either met the 5,000-acre requirement, or shared a boundary with the Hollow Hills Wilderness, thereby alleviating this requirement. Additionally, the forces of nature held sway as the primary force of change within the three units, and because of their contiguous boundary with designated Wilderness, each offered the opportunity for outstanding solitude and unconfined primitive recreation.

**Results of Analysis:**

1. Does the area meet any of the size requirements?      X   Yes           No
2. Does the area appear to be natural?                      X   Yes           No           N/A
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation?                      X   Yes           No           N/A
4. Does the area have supplemental values?                   Yes           No      X   N/A

**Conclusion:**

  X   The area, or a portion of the area, has wilderness characteristics and is identified as Land with Wilderness Characteristics (LWC).

       The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

**Prepared by:**

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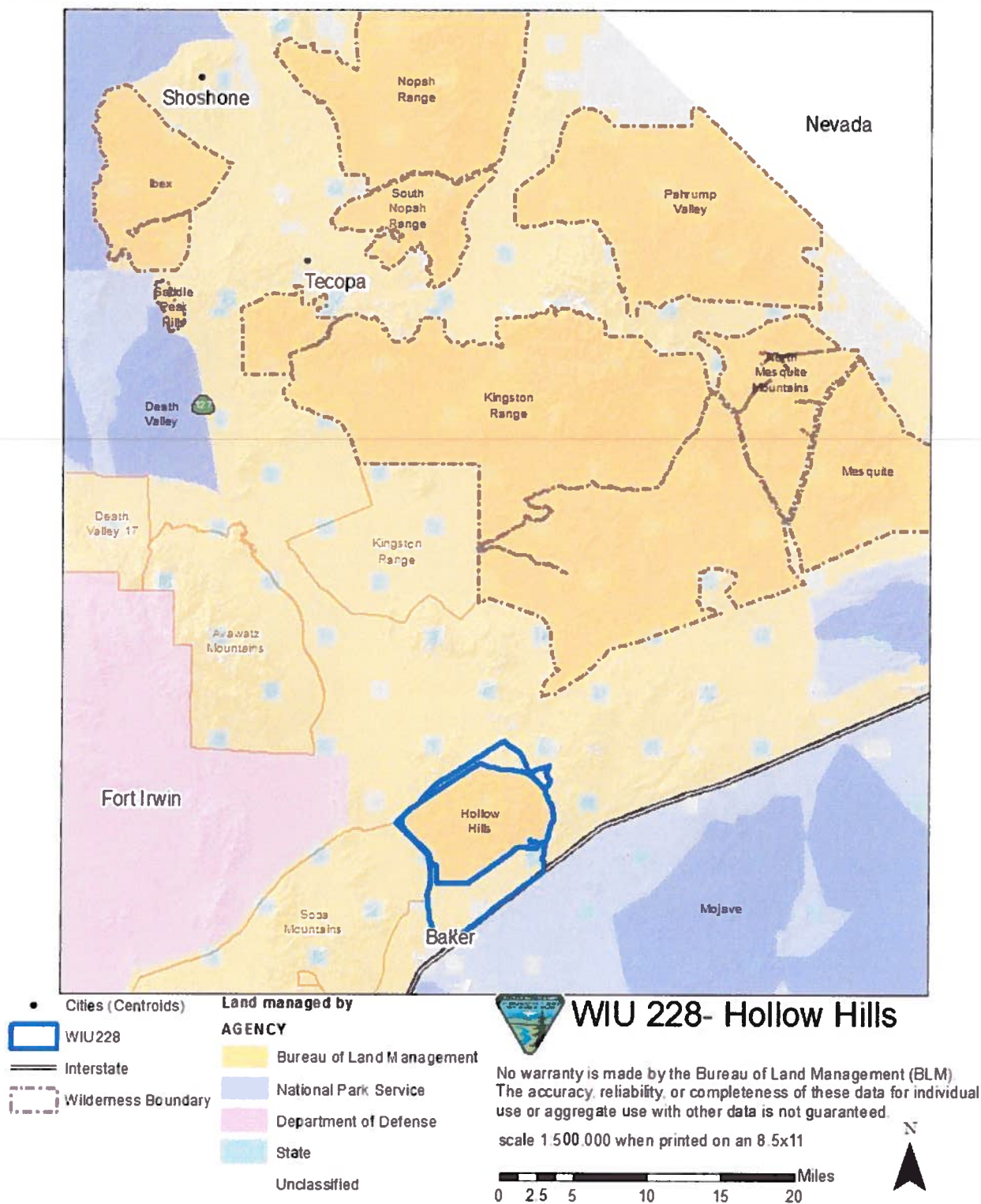
**Approved by:**

**Name:** 

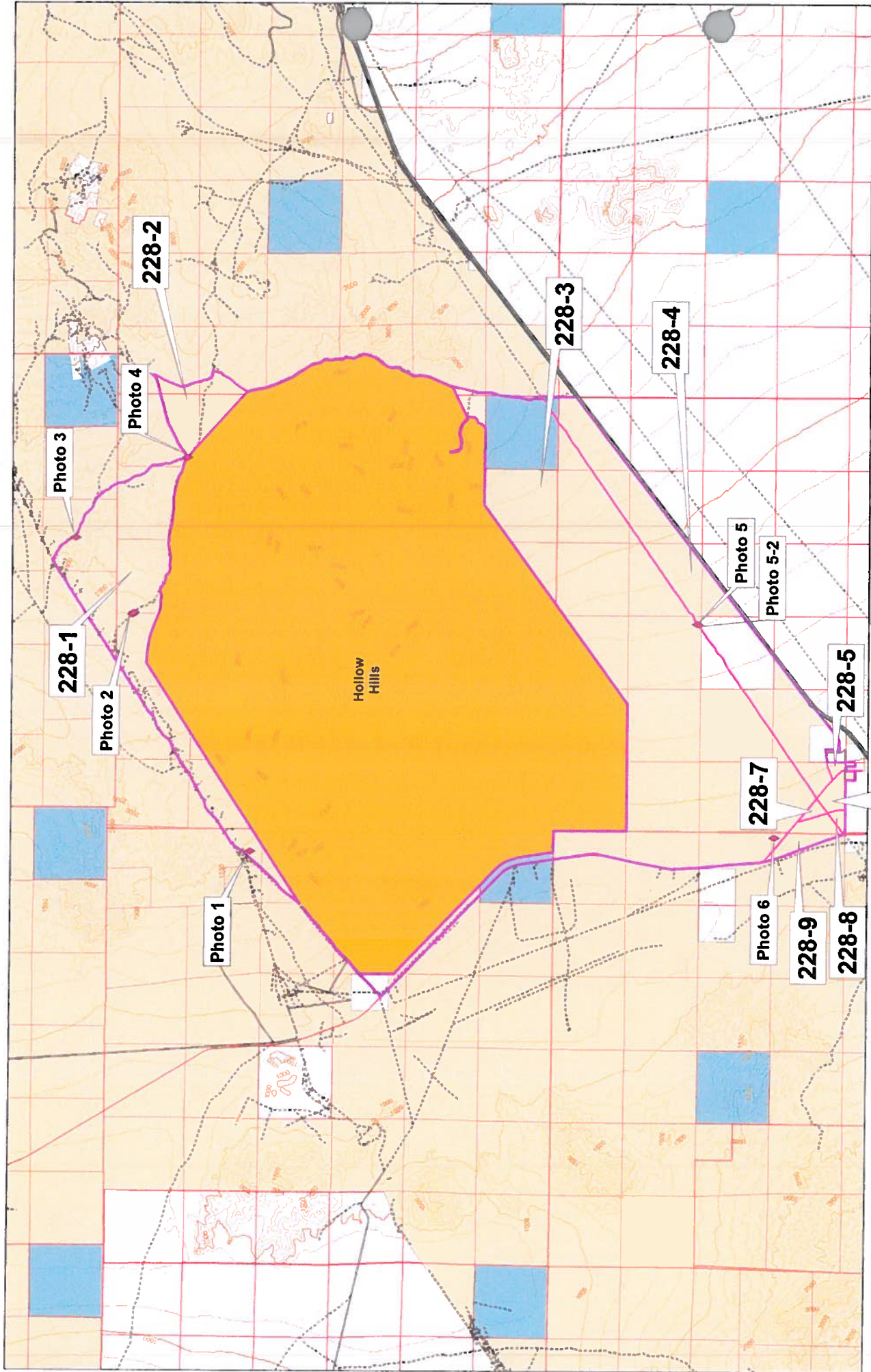
**Date:** 9/28/15

**Title:** Barstow Field Manager

*This form documents information that constitutes an inventory finding on wilderness characteristics. It does not represent a formal land use allocation or a final agency decision subject to administrative remedies under either 43 CFR parts 4 or 1610.5-2.*





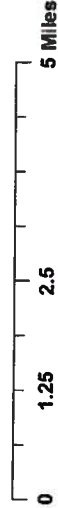


# Legend

- Routes selection
- Photo Points
- Unit 225-1
- NLCS Wilderness Boundary
- Property Ownership
- Roads
- BLM
- FS
- PVT
- State
- Interstate
- Major US
- Major State
- Major County
- Unimproved
- 4wd
- ATV, Motorcycle



1 inch = 5,285 feet

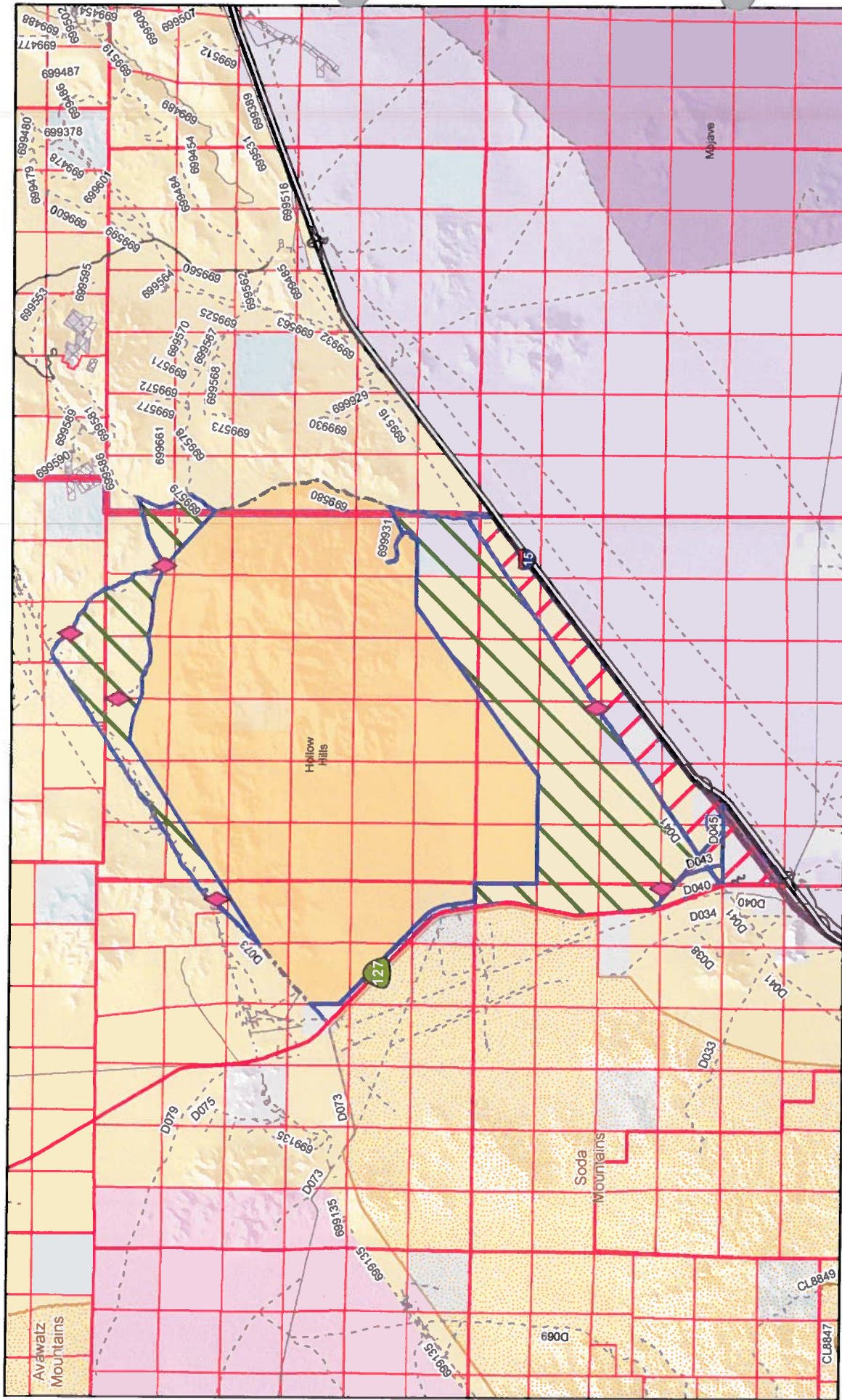


## LWC Unit 228 Northeast Baker Map 1

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data is not guaranteed.

Author: Jen Houts Date: 8/18/2015





## LWC Unit 228 Northeast Baker Map 2

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management. The accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data is not guaranteed.

Author: Brendan O'Connor

Date: 8/24/2015



1:175,000



**Form 1****Documentation of BLM Wilderness Inventory Findings on Record****1. Is there existing BLM wilderness inventory information on all or part of this area?**

No \_\_\_\_\_ (Go to Form 2)

Yes   X  **Inventory Source:** 1979 Wilderness Inventory files, California Desert Conservation Area**Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s):** CA-080-228 Hollow Hills**Map Name(s)/Number(s):** USDI BLM California Desert Wilderness Final Inventory, Dec. 1979**BLM District(s)/Field Office(s):** Barstow Field Office**2. BLM Inventory Findings on Record**

Existing inventory information regarding wilderness characteristics:

Inventory Source: 1979 Wilderness Inventory files, BLM Barstow FO  
1990 California Statewide Wilderness Study Report

<b>Unit#/ Name</b>	<b>Size (historic acres)</b>	<b>Natural Condition? Y/N</b>	<b>Outstanding Solitude? Y/N</b>	<b>Outstanding Primitive &amp; Unconfined Recreation? Y/N</b>	<b>Supplemental Values? Y/N</b>
228	26,442	Y	Y	Y	N/A
228	30,886	Y	Y	Y	N

The two previous inventories for this unit both indicated that the lands was shaped by nature more that human activities, did have available opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation. The results of both inventories led to a majority of this unit becoming the Hollow Hills Wilderness Area under the California Desert Protection Act of 1994. The southern areas not included in the wilderness area are the subject of the present inventory.

**Form 2**

**Documentation of Current Wilderness Inventory Conditions**

**Unit Number/Name:** CA-080-228 Northeast Baker

**Acreage:** 21,736 acres total  
**LWC Acreage:** 10,028 acres

**(1) Sufficient size:**

**Yes:**   X        **No:**       

**Land ownership:**

Unit 228 contains 20,120.5 acres of Public land, 630 acres of State lands, and 985.5 acres of Private land.

**Location:**

The unit is located in San Bernardino County on the eastern side of the BLM Barstow Resource Area. It is one mile northeast of the City of Baker just north of Interstate 15. The location of the State owned parcel is Township 15 North, range 9 East, Section 36. The location of the privately held parcel is Township 14 North, range 9 East, Section 16.

**Boundaries:**

The northern boundary of 228 is Halloran Springs Road, which follows a steel-structure power line. The eastern boundary follows the Francis Springs Road, County Road 20901, and Cree Camp Road. The southern boundary follows Interstate 15, while the western boundary follows State Route CA-127. The Hollow Hills Wilderness and additional human activities have broken up the historic unit, CDCA-228; the resulting ten subdivisions are described below.

Unit 228-1 is bounded on the north by the Boulder power line corridor, on the east by the designated Northeastern Mojave (NEMO) designated route D123, and on the south the Hollow Hills wilderness boundary. It contains 2,512 acres, all of which is public land, and because of its proximity to the Hollow Hills Wilderness, still qualifies for Wilderness Characteristics.

Unit 228-2's boundaries are NEMO route D081 to the north, designated route number 699581 in the east, designated route number 699580 as its southern boundary and on the west by the Hollow Hills Wilderness. This unit contains 465 acres, which are exclusively public land. Due to its shared border with the Hollow Hills Wilderness, unit 228-2 is still a viable candidate for Wilderness Characteristics.

Unit 228-3 contains 7,895 acres of land in total; 7,051 acres of it are public land, 605 acres are State land, and 216 acres are private holdings. The unit is bounded on the north by the hollow hills wilderness, on the east by designated route 699580 on the south by NEMO route D041, which is associated with the following right of ways: CACA 16390, CACA 20105, CACA 21604, and R 01730, and on the west by state highway 127 and the NEMO route D031. This unit is viable for Wilderness Characteristics due to both its size, and because of its contiguous border with the Hollow Hills Wilderness.

Unit 228-4 is bordered on the north by NEMO route D041, on the east by designated route 669580, on the south by Interstate 15, and on the west by a private road and D031. It is 2,014 acres in size, containing 980 acres of public land, 25 acres of State land, and 351 privately held acres. Because this unit fails to reach the 5,000-acre minimum threshold, it does contain Wilderness Characteristic, and is not discussed further in this report.

Unit 228-5 is bordered on the north by one fork of NEMO route D031, on the east by a private road that extends from D031, on the south by NEMO D045, and on the west by the second fork of D031. It contains only 49 acres, 26 of which is public land and 23 of which is private land. Because this unit fails to reach the 5,000-acre minimum threshold, it does contain Wilderness Characteristic, and is not discussed further in this report.

Unit 228-6 is bordered on the north by D041, on the east by D031, on the south by D045 and on the west by D043. This unit contains only 88 acres of public land. Because this unit fails to reach the 5,000-acre minimum threshold, it does contain Wilderness Characteristic, and is not discussed further in this report.

Unit 228-7 is a triangular unit bordered on the north and east by D031, on the south D041 and west by D043. As with 228-6 and 228-5, unit 228-7 contains only 33 acres, all of which are wholly public land. Because this unit fails to reach the 5,000-acre minimum threshold, it does contain Wilderness Characteristic, and is not discussed further in this report.

Unit 228-8 contains 26 acres solely within the public domain. A triangular unit, it is bordered in the north by D041, on the east by D043, and on the south by D045. Because this unit fails to reach the 5,000-acre minimum threshold, it does contain Wilderness Characteristic, and is not discussed further in this report.

Unit 228-9 is bordered on the North by D031, on the east by D043, on the south by D041, and on the west by State Highway 127. Its 183 are solely public land. Because this unit fails to reach the 5,000-acre minimum threshold, it does contain Wilderness Characteristic, and is not discussed further in this report.

228-10 includes much of the town of Baker with its northern boundary being D045, its southeastern boundary being interstate 15, and its western boundary being State Highway 127. It contains 425 acres in total, with 15 acres of public land, and 395.5 acres of private land. Because this unit fails to reach the 5,000-acre minimum threshold, it does contain Wilderness Characteristic, and is not discussed further in this report.



**(2) Natural condition**

Yes:   X  

No:       

NA:       

**Topography:**

This unit is mostly flat with a slow upslope into the neighboring Hollow Hills. The soil is a sandy mix of sand into a decomposed granite coarse sandy loam.

**Vegetation features:**

Creosote Scrub and Saltbush intermingle throughout the unit. The lower elevations of the unit are mainly Saltbush scrub, the upslope leading to the Hollow Hills consist of Creosote Scrub.

**Major human uses/activities:**

Within units 228-1, 228-2, and 228-3, the forces of nature are the primary agents of change. While areas impacted by man and his works surround the three units, each sees only light recreation, allowing natural processes to play out.

**(3) Outstanding opportunities for solitude**

Yes:   X  

No:       

NA:       

When combined with the current Hollow Hills Wilderness, the landscape does provide an opportunity for solitude.

**(4) Outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation**

Yes:   X  

No:       

NA:       

When combined with the current Hollow Hills Wilderness, the land does provide opportunities to be challenged by primitive and unconfined recreation.

**(5) Supplemental values**

Yes:       

No:       

NA:   X

**WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORY – PHOTO LOG**

Photographer(s): Brendan O'Connor

Inventory Area Unique Identifier: CA-080-228 Northeast Baker

Date	Frame #	Camera Direction	Description	GPS/UTM Location	Township	Range	Sec.	Photo Point #
2/6/15		NE	Along power line right-of-way in northern region	35.395923 N 116.079531 W	T 15 N	R 9 E	12	1
2/6/15		SE	Halloran Springs Road, running through a wash	35.419429 N 116.021166 W	T 15 N	R 9 E	3	2
2/6/15		S	Natural landscape in northern region	35.430619 N 116.002627 W	T 16 N	R 9 E	34	3
2/6/15		NW	Natural landscape in northern region	35.408796 N 115.984087 W	T 15 N	R 9 E	2	4
2/8/15	1	E	Along power line ROW in southern region	35.307437 N 116.023913 W	T 14 N	R 9 E	9	5
2/8/15	2	NE	Natural landscape in southern region	35.307437 N 116.023913 W	T 14 N	R 9 E	9	5-2
2/8/15		N	Natural landscape in southern region	35.292306 N 116.075411 W	T 14 N	R 9 E	13	6

Photo point 1--Facing northeast, a power line is evident for miles, detracting from naturalness in the narrow, northern region of the unit. 2/6/15



Photo point 2--In the northern region of the unit, a primitive route, Halloran Springs Road, runs through a wash and leads into the Hollow Hills Wilderness. 2/6/15





Photo point 3--Looking south into the unit, the land surrounding the Hollow Hills Wilderness is primarily affected by the forces of nature. 2/6/15.



Photo point 4--Looking northwest over the wilderness unit, the land is primarily affected by the forces of nature. 2/6/15.



Photo point 5—Frame 1--Facing east along power line right-of-way, the land south of the power line is not primarily natural and will not be included as land with wilderness characteristics. 2/8/15





Photo point 5--Frame 2--The land north of the power lines is primarily affected by the forces of nature. The bajada is also vast, allowing for outstanding opportunities for solitude. 2/8/15



Photo point 6--Facing east into the inventory unit from State Route 127, the land leading into Hollow Hills Wilderness is primarily affected by the forces of nature. The perimeter of the unit has some evidence of human impacts, such as small dumping areas, the interior of the unit has been lightly used. 2/8/15.

